

BARBERY, MATTHIAS]

An Historical

ACCOUNT

OF THE

ADVANTAGES

That have ACCRUED to

ENGLAND,

BY THE

SUCCESSION

IN THE

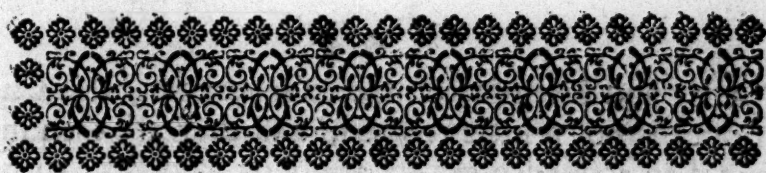
Illustrious House of *Honover*.

Pro Rege saepe, pro Republica semper.

PART I.

L O N D O N:

Printed in the YEAR M,DCC,XXII.



THE
ADVANTAGES
OF THE
Hanover Succession.



S the general Prosperity of every Country redounds to the Advantage of the several Individuals in that Community ; for the same Reason every private Man must be more or less a Sharer in those common Calamities that attend it : This I take to be the Foundation of that Curiosity, which prevails in most Men to enquire into the State and Condition of their Country, and into the Management of publick Affairs ; there being nothing more natural than to enquire into the Causes of those Events wherein we think our Interest is concern'd. Indeed, when Things run on prosperously, and every body enjoys his Liberty and Property in such a Latitude, as flows from a regular Administration, and when Men are convinc'd of the Capacity

A

capacity and Integrity of their Governors ; this Curiosity is not a little rebated, and they are then inclin'd to acquiesce in those publick Benefits, without any further Enquiry into the secret Springs and Causes from whence they flow. But on the other hand, if it evidently appears, that the Interest of the Publick is entirely neglected, Trade given up and sacrificed, tho' it be the very Vitals of the Commonwealth, Foreign Wars engag'd in, tho' notoriously destructive of the publick Welfare, and all other Means and Arts labour'd, in order to impoverish and exhaust a Country : Such a *Crisis* as this will infallibly raise a Curiosity in the Injur'd, to pry into the Conduct of their Superiors, and the Causes of so much Misery ; this they think their Sufferings give them a Right to do.

But the Misfortune is, that the Opportunity does not fall to every Man's Lot to discover the true Origin whence the Misfortunes of his Country do proceed ; for Things of this Nature pass but thro' a few Hands, and those commonly none of the honestest, it being their Interest to conceal, as well as to act, the Crime ; yet we find, that Things even of this sort have often been brought to Light, either thro' a Remorse of some of the superior Agents, or the Honesty of the Inferior ; for sometimes it happens, that such have had the publick Good of their Country more at Heart than their own private Gains. And tho' Instances of this Nature are very uncommon, yet, I doubt not, but I shall be able to convince every true *Englishman*, and some false ones too, who by chance may have the Perusal of these Papers, that this is a Case which does not want a Precedent.

The present Condition of our Country, and the Miseries which now bear so hard upon us, to the utter Ruin of many late opulent Families ; and
which

which, in the Event, will be the Ruin of many more, is, in my Opinion, worth our present Consideration; but, as I have already observ'd, Enquiries of this Nature are generally conceal'd from the Cognizance of vulgar Eyes, yet it will appear, that Providence has so ordered it, that most of the Facts from whence our present Calamities have proceeded, are come to the Knowledge of a Person not disinclin'd to do his Country Justice; and that the present Age may not be so far deceived as to attribute the Evils which we now suffer, to the bare Effect of Chance, I have thought fit to publish what follows, to shew, that on the contrary, all this has proceeded from regular Designs, in order to bring us low, and to make us humble; a Virtue we are naturally dispos'd to, especially in some Instances, wherein the Exercise of it will be requir'd at our Hands: For it will appear, even necessary to the Designs of our present Superiors, that we should be reduc'd to our present, if not a much worse, Condition.

In this Enquiry, it will be necessary to look back into the first Sources and Origin of Things, and to recal some Facts, that have been long since buried to the World, and in some Measure, even to the very Actors themselves; I shall therefore beg Leave to refresh the Memory of some, and inform the Judgment of others, with respect to certain Transactions that are now of above Twenty Years standing; not that this is absolutely necessary to trace the Beginning of our present Misfortunes, but rather that the Reader may have some Account of the secret Intrigues and Passages that happen'd both before and after the Settlement of the Succession in the Illustrious House of *Hanover*: For, as these Papers attempt to give an Account of the Misfortunes that have accru'd to our Country, since

since his present Majesty's Accession to the Throne; the History will be more compleat, if on the one Side the secret Motives are represented in their true Light, which induc'd the late King *William III.* to make this Step; and on the other, what kind of Reception this Settlement met with at *Hanover*, when it was first concerted and established.

The least Pretender to the Knowledge of publick Affairs must be sensible how much it is the Interest of the States of *Holland* to have a Friend of theirs upon the Throne of *Great Britain*; and, if possible, even such a Friend as will prefer their Interest to our own: For nothing can be more evident, than that they are our Rivals in *Trade*, which is our *principal* and their *only* Support; and it is equally evident, that in such a Competition, it is impossible almost, but that *England* must prevail, unless some secret powerful Steersman be retain'd to interpose and to turn the Scale to their Side; and that the Effects of such an Interposition have frequently been felt here of late Years, the *Turky* Company may particularly be consulted upon this Head.

The late King *William* was a Native of *Holland*, and not only so, but he had all those strong Passions and Respects for his Country, which a virtuous Prince and a good Patriot ought to have; nor do we find that his Love for that Country was in the least diminish'd, notwithstanding the Relation he stood in with respect to *England*.

This, I think, will abundantly excuse some Actions in that Prince, which *Englishmen* are apt to call criminal; whereas he, all the while, was a serving his own, not our Country; and this, I must needs say, I look upon as a very shining Virtue in him, which our Countrymen are generally destitute of.

This

This artful Prince (for certainly such he was) considering his own mortal Condition, made Use of all those prodigious Talents he was Master of, in order to serve his native Country when he himself was dead and gone; and the State of Affairs in his Time presented him with a fit Opportunity to continue the same Services, which he had, with a great deal of Art, perform'd all his Life-time; for the false Fears of Popery here, among the Great, Vulgar, and the Small, and the Return of an injur'd Monarch among the wiser sort, who perhaps might labour under some Scruples that look'd like Guilt, were Materials sufficient in the Hands of so accomplish'd a Prince, in order to the Establishment of a Foreign Family in this Throne, to whom no Objections of this kind could be made. This he prudently judg'd to be the best Expedient, in order to continue the Advancement of a *Dutch* Interest; for he thought a Foreigner could have no such Love for his Country as to be strictly solicitous for its Interests, when the Consequences of such a Management must be against his own; and therefore such a Prince might easily be inclin'd to be cool in the Affairs of *England*, and to be willing to suffer a foreign Competitor to reap the Advantages of its Commerce; for by this Means he would effectually secure an Ally to support his Possession of the Crown, and at the same time reduce the *English* Nation to such a Condition by the Loss of their Trade, so as not to be in a Capacity to disturb such a Prince in the Prosecution of either his Foreign or Domestick Interests.

When Things are consider'd in this Light, and with these Views, no Family could appear so fit to answer all these Designs, as well with respect to Religion as Politicks, as that of *Hanover*.

When

When this Scheme was in Agitation, indeed the late Queen *Anne* stood in the Way ; but there was a sham *Plot* contriv'd to remove that Difficulty : For when King *William* went into *Holland*, in the Year 1700, that Affair was thus settled with the late Duke of *Zell* and the Princess *Sophia*, viz. That Queen *Anne* was to be taken up and sent to the *Tower*, upon the Account of a pretended Correspondence with her Father the late King *James* ; and this, without doubt, as the Tide ran at that Time, would have been a sufficient Inducement to exclude her from any Share in the Advantages of the Act of Succession. Further, there was actually a Committee settled at *Westminster*, consisting of such Men as could be rely'd upon, in order to ripen Measures how to bring the Princess *Sophia* into *England* ; and, as the State-Pulse then beat, K. *William* being unavoidably to enter into a War with *France*, the Dowry settled by the Treaty of *Reswick*, upon the late Dowager *Mary*, King *James's* Queen (which was 50000 *l. per Annum*) was to be appropriated to the Princess *Sophia's* Use, as well as *Somerset House* was for her Residence.

These are known Truths, and even the Vulgar were under some Apprehensions of Designs of this Nature against the late Queen ; nay, there are several who to this Day retain some Impressions of this sort : And the Party-scriblers of the *Tory*-side have given broad Hints of it ; tho' it is difficult to guess how they came by them, unless it was by the Means of the late Earl of *Rocheſter* : For he was the only Person, as far as I can find, of a different Inclination, that knew any Thing of this Affair. He, indeed, was forewarn'd of the Design, perhaps from the same Quarter that the Wind blows now ; and he, after the Accession of Queen *Anne*, being talk'd to upon this Subject, said, he was satisfied

tisfied of the Truth of it, but he thought the Affair too dangerous to be look'd into : However, it is a Fact certainly known to many now alive, to whom I may appeal, that the Minutes and Memoirs of this whole Affair as transacted by the aforementioned Committee, were surpris'd by a private Order of Council.

But the unexpected Death of King *William*, put an end to all these Projects and Contrivances : However, he so far prevail'd as to secure the Succession to a Foreigner, after the Death of Queen *Anne*, who was even then an infirm sickly Woman, and no way likely to have any more Children ; so that the Project was so well laid, that probably it might take Effect in Process of Time, tho' for the present, those that pursu'd the *Dutch* Interests were forc'd to be contented without it.

And thus we see upon what Foot, and in order to what Designs the House of *Hanover* was first establish'd here.

I shall now proceed to give you an Account of some Transactions at *Hanover*, just upon the Establishment of the Act of Settlement, whereby it will appear, that it was not out of any Love, or real Concern for the Interest of the *English* Nation, that even the House of *Hanover* itself accepted of this Succession, but purely to advance their own Interests abroad ; and in order to this, *England* was to be reduc'd to such a Condition, as to be subservient to it : This will appear to every Reader, by what I am now going to relate.

A little before the Death of King *William*, the late Lord *Macclesfield* was the Tool pitch'd upon to carry over the Succession Act, and to present it to the Princess *Sophia*, and the Prince her Son ; but they did not receive it with that Alacrity and Regard to the *English* Nation, as the People on this
Side

Side the Water were made to believe; for there were several Difficulties rais'd which few Men expected. There was a Lady, a Creature of that Court, who was always listen'd to with Attention, who represented the *English Nation as a fickle People, very subject to revolt and plot against their own natural Princes, much more would their Inclinations be that Way given, when under the Dominion of a Foreigner, and especially of a Prince who they might suspect to have some Resentments against them for old Neglects and Injuries which his Family, by the Mother's-side, formerly suffer'd, and which were principally owing to their Obstinacy, and that no Foreign Prince whatsoever would propose to himself either Ease or Happiness at the Head of those People.* These were that politick Lady's Sentiments of us: But my Lord Baron Berensdorff interpos'd here, and being inclin'd to be complaisant to the fair Sex, readily granted all she had said for great undeniable Truths: *That the English indeed were a vile, rebellious, inconstant People, not worthy the least Confidence or Trust, yet that this Offer of the Succession was a Thing by no Means to be rejected; for tho' the English were a People of no Veracity, yet they might serve very well as Tools to advance the Interests of the House of Hanover abroad, and which might perhaps be manag'd and brought to such an Height, as to put it out of their own Power to do any Mischief: That this Succession would give the Prince a Lustre in Germany for the present; that if it took Effect, it would enable him to enlarge his Territories there; that tho' there should be no Possibility to gain the Affections of the English, yet there was no room to doubt but a Prince of that House might easily make himself Master of their Purses, which would serve the Turn as well; that they being a People divided among themselves into Factions, they were the more easily to*

be managed; that by seeming to countenance one Side, he might at his Ease oppress the other, and in the End drain both of their Money: Besides, this Succession would enable him to gain great Alliances in Europe, and particularly he would find himself courted by the Two contending Houses of Christendom, Austria and Bourbonne, and both, in their Turns, would be forward enough to give him their Protection. After some Debates of this kind, it was at last concluded, that the Succession should be accepted.

These were the Motives, and these the Views, which at that Time prevail'd, and caus'd the Rejoycings of that Court. And now the Question will be, Whether his present Majesty, since he is settled in the Throne, and his fast Friends, have not all along acted with an Eye to this Scheme? But before I enter upon this, some Things are necessary to be hinted at, which pass'd during the Interval of the late Queen's Reign, and before this Settlement took Effect.

When the Princess *Anne* came to the Throne, the House of *Hanover* was always jealous of her Conduct, with respect to the Interests of that Family. But whether this was owing to a Consciousness of the Practices above-mentioned, wherein they were concern'd as Principals, in order to deprive her of her Turn in the Succession, that they might attain their Ends the sooner; or whether they were sensible of some old Grudge of a much ancients standing, is, what is not very material to enquire into; yet very certain it is, there was no good private Understanding between that Family and the late Queen; for there were always *Hanoverian* Spies planted here, to watch all Motions, as well of publick as private Transactions. These Jealousies produc'd an eager Desire in those abroad, and in their fast Friends here at home, to have the

Princess *Sophia* and her Grandson, the present Prince of *Wales*, brought over; so that they might gain upon the Affections of the People, in case any Attempts were made contrary to their Interests.

My Lord *Macclesfield* was again pitch'd upon to put himself at the Head of those who were for bringing this Affair about; but, as it happen'd, even some of them who were thought to be most inclin'd to join in this Enterprize, when it came to be thoroughly canvass'd, appear'd but very cool in the Prosecution of it; for there are a considerable Number of that Party, who are distinguished by the Name of *Whigs*, that have always had quite different Views from those of a Foreign Succession, notwithstanding their outward, even vehement, Professions, the true Designs of these Men tending towards a Republick. Indeed, they pretended, at the private Conferences of that Party, that the Princess *Sophia* employ'd few or none but *Roman* Catholicks about her, and that it was probable she would continue her old Servants after her Arrival here; which would not only bring an Odium upon the Succession itself, but also upon those Persons that promoted it; yet this was but a Cloak to cover their other real Design. My Lord *Macclesfield*, who was a trusty Promoter of this Family, saw (with the Eyes of others at least) into the Aims of some of the Party, and objected it to them; but as he had no Facts to support what he said, it pass'd for nothing, and so the Affair in some measure dropt. Indeed, the vulgar *Whigs*, who meant what they spoke, were very warm in it; but when any Party, tho' otherwise ever so considerable, are cunningly deserted by their Leaders, they can be of no very great Consequence. I must needs own, I think the Republican *Whigs* are more in the Interests of their Country, than the others;

others ; for no doubt if such a Scheme of Government prevail'd, it would be more eligible, and better for the Interest of *England*, than the Dominion of a Foreigner ; because such a Government could have no Views of a *publick Nature*, but what are for the common Good ; there not being the same Temptations for such Men to sacrifice their own Country to aggrandize any other Nation.

Those *Whigs* that strictly adher'd to the Scheme my Lord *Macclesfield* was employ'd to pursue, tho' they fail'd in their main Project, to bring the Princess *Sophia* and her Grandson over, yet they so far influenc'd Affairs, as to procure a Regercy to be established to secure the Kingdom for the Use of the House of *Hanover*, upon the Death of the late Queen ; not but that even this had a much greater Effect than was expected from it by the publick and private Opposers of the first Proposal.

We are now to proceed to that Period, when all these Contrivances were to have the desired Effect. Upon the Death of Queen *Anne*, the Generality of the Kingdom, as having an inherent Affection for new Things, turn'd their Eyes to *Hanover* to be supplied with a Sovereign. The *Tories*, who at that Time rul'd the Roast, were always suspected, tho' very unjustly, of a Disaffection to that House ; nay, King *George* himself was not only jealous of them in particular, but also of the *English* Nation in general ; and therefore he staid in *Hanover* and *Holland* above six Weeks, in order to see what Turn Affairs would take here, before he ventur'd to set his Foot upon *English* Ground. But being at last encourag'd by the repeated Invitations both publick and private of the leading Men of both Parties, he conquer'd his Irresolution.

Upon his Arrival in *Holland*, the States took Care to instil such Notions into him, with respect

to their common Interest, as were very inconsistent with that of *England*, tho' they were no other than such as he had before entertain'd; and Pensionary *Heinsius* was the Man that negotiated this Affair: He told him, that he must not look upon *England* as the Place of his future Abode, but rather as a Place to be us'd so long as it could be preserv'd for the Advancement of their common Good; that notwithstanding the Invitations he had received from some of the Heads of the Tory side, they were Persons not at all fit to be employ'd; because, by that Means, he would put it in their Power to out him at their Pleasure; that the Generality of them had already laid Schemes in favour of his Competitor; that Revenge, and their own Security, would oblige the Whigs to come into the same Measures: But if on the other hand the Whigs were employ'd, all that the Tories would aim at, would be, to solicit the French Interest in favour of the Pretender; but that France being at present poor and low, they would not be so forward in complying with their Desires: Besides, the French Court knowing the Tories to be Men of no Resolution to carry on such an Affair, they would rather make their Court to him. And in case the Tories should raise a Rebellion, he knew he was secure of the Emperor and Dutch for Troops upon all Exigencies: That this would give him a Handle to keep a standing Army for the future, to make them submit, upon all Occasions, to any Loads he should think fit to lay upon them: That the only Way to keep himself in the Saddle, will be to drain them of their Wealth, and to cut off as much as possible, all Opportunities of Trade, and thereby to hinder them from a speedy Recruit; that the English were a restive stomachful People when in Prosperity; but they were mean dispirited Souls, when reduced to Want; That they would only whine, and make a little Noise in their private Cabals, which was all he
had

had to apprehend from them, when in such a Condition: That by strengthening the Dutch with the English Trade, he only secured himself the more in the Possession of his Crown, and which would so far enable him to advance his Interests in Germany, that one Day it might happen, that a Prince of his House might sit at the Head of the Empire.

Big with these Resolutions, and these Schemes, he arriv'd in *England*; where he had no sooner settled himself, but immediately he left no Stone unturn'd to procure foreign Alliances to strengthen, not the *English* Interest, but his own Possession of the Throne; as if the one were inconsistent with the other; being full of the former Jealousies of and Prejudices against us.

The Regent of *France* having particular Views of his own at that Time, was thought the fittest Person to make a good Brother, and a firm Ally of; for they were to be a mutual Security to one another, to enable them to execute their several Designs and Projects.

The next Project to secure himself, and carry on his Schemes, was to involve us abroad, by sending Fleets into the *Baltick* and *Mediterranean*, to drain us of our redundant Humours, as well in respect to Men as Money; and tho' by the *Act of Settlement*, the *English* were to be engag'd in no foreign War, but wherein the national Interest was concern'd, yet this was over-rul'd, and the *English* have been oblig'd to engage in Wars, not only wherein they were not concern'd themselves, but in Wars evidently contrary to their Interests, and which could have no other View but to break their Trade, that it might fall into the Hands of the *Dutch*; of this Nature was that with *Spain*, and the other in the *North*.

My

My Lord *Townshend* and Mr. *Walpole*, we all know, were a few Years ago in disgrace; but the true Reason has hitherto been in some measure conceal'd. They, at that Time, had some remaining Bowels of Compassion for their Country, and were against such Projects which they knew would at last terminate in its Destruction; and it was for this Reason that they were at that Time reputed as Persons not fit to be employ'd. But upon cooler Thoughts, when they afterwards saw that their Country must be ruin'd, whether they had a Hand in it or no, they have since fortified themselves with new Resolutions, and on Recollection thought it convenient to be Sharers in the publick Booty.

There was another Project started, in order to support King *George* with Money, tho' very detrimental to the *English* Nation in general, and to the *East India* Company in particular; and this was by concerting with the *Emperor* to establish an *Ostend* Company to interfere in our *East India* Trade. Two and a Half *per Cent.* was the Price agreed upon, and which they are to pay, in Consideration of this Privilege, whereas our Company pay Fifteen *per Cent.* so that the *Ostenders* are hereby enabled to undersell them, at least Ten in the Hundred, and be sufficient Gainers too. There were several rich Merchants in this City, who treated with Baron *Bothmar*, to pay certain Sums of Money to King *George's* Use, for a Connivance in the Enjoyment of this Trade; and it will be found, as it hath hitherto been, that this Grievance will always want a Remedy, till Providence has so order'd it, as to put the *English* upon such a Foot, as to be able to pursue their own Interest.

This Project answers two great Ends in the *German* Scheme, viz. To impoverish the *English*, and, at the same time, enrich the House of *Hanover*.

There

There was another Scheme put in Execution, which tho' it did not fully answer the Designs of the Projectors, yet it had in some Measure its Effect; and this was, to declare War with *Spain*; whereby his Majesty not only propos'd to enrich himself, but also to ruin our *Spanish* Trade, and consequently to impoverish us. The latter Part of this Project our Merchants, as well as the People in general, feel the Effects of; but the Affair of getting of Money did not so well succeed; for it was also concerted to send twelve Ships of War to intercept the *Spanish* Galleons in the Gulph of *Florida*; but by some Means or another, his Catholick Majesty got Intelligence of it, and took proper Methods to prevent its succeeding.

The Interest of this Country was undoubtedly sacrificed by this *Spanish* War, for we could have no Motives to be at Variance with that Nation; but we have many that ought to incline us to use all honest Arts we can to keep them our Friends. The most advantageous Trade we have, is allow'd to be the *Spanish*; and if so, could *England*, if it were not influenc'd by foreign Councils, be so far wanting to itself, as to quarrel with the only People whom we have all the Reason in the World to endeavour to oblige? Certainly, if it had been necessary for us to be concern'd in the *Spanish* Affairs, it had been our glaring Interest to have declar'd in their Favour; this had effectually riveted us in the good Graces of that People, and so far secur'd that Trade, that it had been out of the Power of our Competitors to undermine us. The wiser *Dutch* saw this, and took Measures accordingly; but it is our Misfortune to be influenc'd by Councils that are none of our own, and to be govern'd by those that have Designs upon our Liberties, our Fortunes, and every Thing else that is dear and valuable.

But

But our Condition is such, that these Schemes are too lingering, too full of Delay, to do our Business, there must be something concerted more quick in the Operation; the King wanted Money to carry on his Affairs abroad, and the *English* are too long Masters of their own Fortunes: And therefore some other more effectual Means, than those above-mention'd, must be found to answer these Ends.

A noble Peer, that died not long ago, was known to have as great a Share in the King's Affections as any Man living, and no doubt of it he deserv'd no less; for there was nothing which he found the King inclin'd to, but he immediately came into it, tho' Father, Brother, Sister, Country, or what else may be reputed most dear and valuable to Man, stood in the Way.

About three Years ago, this noble Lord, as far as his Words could be recollected, express'd himself to the following Purpose, at a private Conference held at Baron *Bothmar's* House, where their *South Sea* Scheme was first concerted.

The King's Affairs (said this noble Lord) *are in such a Condition abroad, that a great Sum of Money is requisite to settle them. For in the first Place, if we consider the untractable Temper of the Czar, we must by some Means or another bring him to a more easy Disposition; and this must be done, either by giving him such a Sum of Money as will incline him to come into the King's Measures; or, if this fails, we must endeavour to prevail with the Port to fall upon him, which you know cannot be attempted without a vast Charge.*

*The King is also advis'd to purchase new * Domi-
nions contiguous with his own, to accomplish which a
considerable Sum must be rais'd; this will enable his
Majesty*

* Macklenberg, Wismar.

Majesty to make a considerable Figure in Germany; this will bring all the Princes of the North into his Measures; and there will then be no Fear of a new War in those Parts, unless the King should find it his Interest to promote it.

A considerable Sum must also be rais'd and advanc'd to King Augustus, the better to enable him to make Poland hereditary; for if this can be compass'd by the King's Means, he will always have it in his Power to keep France within Bounds, and to hinder it for the future from forming any Alliance prejudicial to the common Cause: Tho' we are indeed secure of that Interest at present, having been somewhat condescending to them in the Affair of the Quadruple Alliance.

The Emperor is so thoroughly link'd in Interest with the King, that we are certain he will enter into any Treaty or Measures with him to the Advancement of their common Good.

As for the Spaniards, it is true we have quarrell'd with them, but that Breach may easily be made up, for the Fleet which we have destroy'd were only old English and Dutch East India Men, not fit for any great Service; and we may easily repair that Loss by proposing to build them an equal Number of Ships in our own Docks under the Notion of Ships built for the Mississippi Company in France: This will serve to blind our People here at home, and at the same time put us upon good Terms with Spain.

To answer these Ends, a considerable Sum of Money must be rais'd by one Means or another. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has examin'd all the Projects that have been laid before him, and he says it is impossible, by any new Tax, to raise a Fund of Ten Thousand Pounds per Ann. which is such a Trifle, that it will not answer his Majesty's Travelling Expences into Germany. Nor if we make Use of this South-Sea Scheme, which my Lord the Baron, and

his Majesty have propos'd, I make no doubt but we shall be able to raise Money enough to answer all the King's Necessities; and all Men will readily come into it, because of the View they have to augment their Fortunes. The South Sea Company have already offer'd their Service, and the leading Men among them have promis'd to be under Direction; and it is not to be doubted, but by a good Understanding between the King and that Company, he may be easily furnished with some Millions of Money, to put all these projected Schemes in Execution.

We find the Regent of France has, by such a Step as this, brought the Treasure of that Country into his own Coffers; and what can prevent us from doing the like? And by this Means we shall at once lay a sure Foundation to enable the King to be Master both of the Purse and Persons of his Subjects.

Here we see the Aggravation of all our Misfortunes: The South Sea Scheme, we see, was concerted to raise Money, not to discharge National Debts, but to support foreign Interests, which do not in the least relate to England; I shall pass this very remarkable Speech by, without a Comment, for indeed it needs none. We are not to wonder, that the Success of former Crimes should make those that committed them, bold enough to engage in more desperate Undertakings; for having tried their Strength that Way, they are inspir'd with a Confidence which makes those Designs seem easy to be put in practice, that to others appear attended with almost insuperable Difficulties.

When this Scheme came to make its Appearance upon the Stage, there were several Representations made to this noble Lord in particular, of the ill Effects of it. It was demonstrated to him, that it would in the End prove to be the Destruction of
Credit,

Credit, both publick and private; that if notwithstanding this, they were resolv'd to carry it, in Opposition to all Considerations whatsoever, the raising the Stock above Two Hundred, would infallibly prove the Ruin of the Company. His Lordship's Answer was, *That the King's Necessities were to be preferred before any Consequences that could be objected; that he was satisfied the King could not subsist unless this Project was promoted to the utmost Pitch it possibly could bear.*

When it was further objected to his Lordship, that the general Ruin it would bring along with it, might happen to be detrimental to the publick Peace, and occasion a general Disaffection; create abundance of Fears and Jealousies, which would perhaps end in an open Rebellion: His Lordship upon this, immediately replied, *That when they had all the Money in the Kingdom in their own Hands, which by this Means they would have, there was nothing of this Nature to be apprehended, but what might in the End turn to the King's Advantage; for they had an Army ready, and they might have what further Supplies they pleas'd from abroad; that he would put himself at the Head of them, and that he doubted not but he should be able to put a Stop to any Attempts of that kind; besides, that this would give the King a fair Opportunity to make himself absolute, when it appear'd that his English Subjects were not to be depended upon.*

Whoever was truly acquainted with this noble Peer, must be very sensible that he always meant what he spoke, and that he did not want Resolution to execute what he had once engag'd in; we have seen him live to accomplish some Part of his Project; we have seen it have those ill Consequences which were expected from it, and if they remain

remaining Parts of it are not yet entirely come to pass, no body knows how soon they may.

To convince the World that the like Policies have prevail'd, since the Death of this noble Lord, I shall take the Liberty to communicate what I learn'd from a worthy Gentleman lately arriv'd from *Germany*; who discoursing there with a certain Prime Minister, about the Design of the *South Sea Company*, in carrying on a Trade to *Greenland*, according to the Proposition so much talk'd of; this Gentleman argu'd, That such a Project, if it should succeed, might so far prejudice the *Dutch*; as to induce them to break their Alliance with his *Britannick Majesty*. To obviate this Objection, his Excellency read a Paragraph out of a Letter he receiv'd, the Post before, from a certain Minister in *England*; which Paragraph, with two more, the Gentleman had the Favour to transcribe, in order to satisfy his Friends in *Holland*: They are in Substance as follows:

Our Neighbours ought to take no Umbrage at what the *South-Sea Company* did, in relation to the *Greenland Fishery*; for neither the King nor his Friends will attempt any Thing, in earnest, of that kind, to their Prejudice.—We are under a Necessity of making a Treaty with *Spain*, in order to amuse them, as they have amus'd us all along; and the better to assist our fast Friends of the House of *Austria*; for tho' we should not perform any stipulation made with the Spaniard, we do not doubt but we shall find Excuses enough in this Country from the Jealousies and Emulations of the contending Factions, to come off from such Engagements with sufficient Reputation.—In a little Time, you will find what I hinted in all my Dispatches will prove true: The Act of Indemnity, and some late Acts, are In-

stances

stances of it; tho' some, indeed, murmur at them, yet all are silenced, and dare not go to Law, or even open their Mouths; unless it be over a Bottle in their private Clubs; so that I hope, in less than a Year more, the King will be in a Condition to make all Parties dance after his own Pipe.

If you recollect each Passage contained in these Papers, I believe you must think they discover such a Scene of Iniquity, and such a Plot against the Liberties of England, as no History can parallel; but what is most surprizing is, That Natives of this Soil can put their helping Hand, and contribute, as much as in them lies, to their Country's Ruin.

I am sensible in whose Hands a great Part of the Money, lent upon Stock and Subscriptions, is lodg'd; and I beg Leave to assure my Countrymen, who have not observ'd it, that the Riches of the Nation are to dispos'd of, as to contribute to its further Ruin and Slavery. The Government is sensible, that it cannot depend upon English Troops to compleat their Designs, and therefore there is no Prince with whom they have enter'd into a firm Alliance, but that they have contracted for a certain Number of Troops to be in a Readiness upon all Emergencies; not only to subdue the Liberties of the People, but also to curb and chastise our Seditious; for it seems whoever is of English Growth, or not thoroughly initiated among them, is upon the weak Bottom of suspected Credit; and the Truth is, they will trust such Men no longer than till they can do without them; because they are afraid, lest they may happen to have some Remorse about them, some Remains of Love for their Country.

But there is sufficient Care taken, that when his Majesty's Designs are ripe for Execution, he will

be under no Necessity to depend upon the Fidelity of the *English* Soldiers. The present King of *Prussia* has near Seventy Thousand Men, at this Time, in Pay; now I should be glad to know of those Gentlemen, who are acquainted with the Revenues of that Crown, and the Extent of those Dominions, how far his *Prussian* Majesty is able to keep such a Number of Men in continual Pay. I am sure, according to the best Computation that I have been able to make, that his *Prussian* Majesty cannot constantly maintain an Army of Twenty Thousand Men; and if so, I am sure every considerate Man must conclude, that some other Potentate is concern'd in the Maintenance of them: Besides, it is evident, that such an extraordinary Number of Troops can be of no Service to that Prince, since he is at Peace with all the World; and further we find, that those Neighbours, who may seem to be most concern'd, take no Umbrage at his extraordinary Armament, being sensible by whom, and with what Design they are maintain'd.

These are the Facts, and these are the Schemes I have, at this Time, thought fit to acquaint my Countrymen with, before they are involv'd in an utter Ruin. I am no Party-Writer; I neither prefer the Interests of *Whig* or *Tory*; there are in both those Parties Men so notoriously vile, as no Country was ever curs'd with the like; nor are there, on the other hand, wanting in both, Men of the strictest Honour and Regard for the publick Good. What I say, I know. These little Distinctions amongst us are propagated by the real Enemies of us all, by Men that have Designs upon our common Liberties: For I beg Leave to assure the World, that the Question now is not whether *Whig* or *Tory*, Church of *Englandman* or Dissenter,

Dissenter, is to prevail, but between *English* Liberty and foreign arbitrary Dominion.

If after this Warning, Party Humour prevails, before publick Good, the Evils design'd against us will be our common Punishment.



P O S T S C R I P T.

I Have forgot to mention one Thing very material to be known, which was transacted upon the late Peace concluded at *Utrecht*. His present Majesty, then Elector of *Hanover*, and his *German* Ministers, were under some Apprehensions, that the Affairs of *England* would take such a Turn, at that Juncture, that it would be no easy Matter to unravel them; and Baron *Botbmar* was employ'd to influence the several Powers then united in the Grand Alliance, not to come into the Measures of *England*, but to stand it out to the last, in Opposition to all amicable Inclinations. These Transactions had such an Influence upon our Affairs, that tho' the *English* Ministry bore up against all Opposition, yet this visible Partiality in the next Successor to the Throne, was such a Weight upon all their Measures, that all the real Hardships which this Nation labour'd under, from that Peace, were only the necessary Consequences of the violent Opposition it met with in *Germany* and *Holland*, by the Interest of the House of *Hanover*.

There are several other dangerous Contrivances now in Agitation among the *Germans*, which the
Times

~~Time will not bear to be made publick ; and I~~
 fear the Nation will sooner feel than know the
 Evil design'd against them : Nor is it consistent
 with any present Safety, at this Juncture, to give
 the World any more particular Discoveries.

F I N I S .

I have forgot to mention one Thing very ma-
 terial to be known, which was transacted up-
 on the late Peace concluded at Utrecht. His pre-
 sent Majesty, then Elector of Hanover, and his
 German Ministers, were under some Apprehen-
 sions, that the Affairs of England would take such a
 Turn, at that juncture, it would be no easy
 Matter to unravel them, and Baron Bockstorn was
 employ'd to observe the Courtiers then em-
 ploy'd in the Court, and to get into the
 Intimacies of the Ministers, and to the
 last, in Order to get the secret of the
 Affairs, that the English Ministry bore up a-
 gainst all Opposition, yet this visible Partiality in
 the next Successor to the Throne, was such a
 Weight upon all their Measures, that all the real
 Hardships which the Nation labour'd under, from
 that Peace, were only the necessary Consequences
 of the violent Opposition it met with in Germany
 and Holland, by the Interest of the House of Au-
 stria.

There are several other dangerous Conspiracies
 now in Agitation among the Powers, which the
 Times